

Workforce & Career Development Division

Director's Corner

We are moving closer and closer to go live of the WorkSourceWA solution. We have finished with our user acceptance testing, a huge endeavor that involved so many. Thank you to the staff who participated in that important process. Your work has continued to improve the development of the system.

During the first week of December, we will complete train the trainer sessions. Be sure to watch for staff training to come to an office near you! You can register for training on the [Staff Development Calendar](#) on the [Inside WorkSource website](#).

This is a truly exciting time as we find new opportunities to redefine the work we do with job seekers and employers in our state. Just imagine having more time to help job seekers explore and define career options, and more time to recruit employers and help them define the skill sets they are looking for in their open positions.

As we move through these final weeks of development toward implementation, I encourage you to stay in touch with what is happening through the blog, [Go2News](#).

Thank you for all of the work you do everyday to help improve the lives of our state's job seekers and employers.

~Sandy Miller

Draft State Strategic Plan for Workforce Development Released

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) endorsed a draft of the state's ten-year strategic plan for workforce development at its November 19 meeting. The plan, called Talent and Prosperity for All: The Strategic Plan for Unlocking Washington's Workforce Potential, is the successor to High Skills, High Wages, and addresses the requirements of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA). The draft plan can be viewed on [WTECB's web site](#). Workforce development professionals and customers are encouraged to review the plan and provide feedback by email or through a survey on the site.

Update on the 2016-2020 Combined State Plan Efforts

The state's WIOA Combined State Plan development process got underway in earnest with core and partner programs tackling assignments related to common (cross-program coordination and alignment) and program-specific operational elements ahead of four partner convenings. These meetings, scheduled between November and December, will provide partners opportunity to discuss and develop the operational commitments that will be enshrined in the plan. The state's ten-year strategic plan for workforce development (see article above) will perform double-duty as the strategic component of the WIOA Combined State Plan and "touchstone" for the operational component of the plan. Partner programs include:

- Title I Youth, Adult, and Dislocated Workers
- Title II Adult Education
- Title III Wagner-Peyser Labor Exchange
- Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training
- Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)
- Jobs for Veterans Service Grant (JVSG)
- Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Employment and Training
- Community Services Block Grant (CDBG)
- Reintegration of Ex-Offenders (RExO)
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) Workforce Education Programs
- Department of Labor and Industries' Apprenticeship



WorkSource Spokane's WorkFirst Open House a Success!

The WorkSource Spokane WorkFirst team recently brainstormed ways to increase customer referrals from Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) case managers, and came up with the idea of providing an open house to the DSHS staff. This event offered a chance to promote all the valuable services the Career *Scope* program and the WorkSource Center offers, provide updates on the program, and mingle. Additionally, WorkSource Spokane had a newly remodeled building to show off!

The team formed a workgroup to plan and prepare materials for the event. Staff reported this was a great team building activity they all enjoyed working on together.

The event took place earlier in late October. The WorkFirst team is excited to report they had 30 DSHS staff attend the two sessions. They received very positive feedback from our DSHS partners, and as they expected, many of the WorkSource Spokane staff also benefitted by learning about so many invaluable resource available to our joint customers.

Congratulations to the WorkFirst team for hosting such a successful event!

Additional WIOA Youth Guidance Issued

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) recently issued [Training and Employment Guidance Letter \(TEGL\) 08-15](#), which provides clarifying and additional guidance related to the WIOA Title I Youth Program following the issuance of [TEGL 23-14](#) nearly eight months ago. Most of the youth eligibility and service requirements covered in TEGL 08-15 are addressed in the state's [Eligibility Policy Handbook](#) that is attached to [WorkSource System Policy 1019, Revision 1](#). More unique guidance, though, includes the following:

- Youth funds carried over from PY14 to PY15 retain the minimum 30 percent Out of School Youth (OSY) expenditure requirement articulated in TEGL 23-14 (whereas the statement in TEGL 38-14 that the funds took on WIOA characteristics on July 1, 2015 is incorrect).
- Local boards can transition their Youth Councils under WIA into Youth Standing Committees under WIOA, but should review membership to ensure that members bring appropriate experience, expertise, and resources to the body. If the local board also has a committee focused on individuals with disabilities, the two committees should collaborate on coordination of service to youth with disabilities.
- The required 20 percent minimum expenditure on youth work experience can include staff time identifying opportunities; orienting participants and employers to work experience; working with employers to develop work experience opportunities and ensure successful experiences; evaluating work experience engagements; and delivering education components directly related to the work experience.
- The requirement to pursue strategic and programmatic coordination between Title I Youth Program and Title II Adult Education and Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation to serve older youth and youth with disabilities, respectively, and to speak to that coordination in the WIOA State Plan.

New Policy Guidance

[WIOA Policy 5205](#):
Cash Depositories

[WIOA Policy 5235](#):
Administrative Cost Pool
Grants

[WIOA Policy 5245](#):
Grants or Contracts Close-
outs

[WIOA Policy 5407](#):
Property Management and
Inventory

[WIN0051 Change 1](#):
Grant Application and
Endorsement Requests

[WIN0072](#): Creating New
WIOA Services in SKIES
Prior to WIT Go-Live

December 2015 Featured Events

WorkSourceWA Staff Role Training

Sessions are scheduled beginning in December through January in several locations statewide.

[Register through the Staff Development Calendar](#)



Please send us your feedback!

We want this newsletter to reflect our system and welcome your suggestions for future articles. Let us know what you'd like to see, or send us an article about something important to you! E-mail us at ESDGPWCDDTST@esd.wa.gov.